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PRESS RELEASE **20 November 1991**

Indonesian human rights activists arrested
Investigative visit to Dili stopped

Three leading human rights activists have been arrested in Jakarta today as the military authorities move to prevent an Indonesian human rights team from travelling to Dili to investigate the 12 November Santa Cruz massacre and subsequent repression.

Indro Tjahyono, of Infight, the Indonesian Front for Human Rights, **Poncke Princen**, chair of the League for the Defence of Human Rights and **Yopie Lasut**, also of Infight, were arrested this morning. Indro is now being held by *Bakorstanas*, the armed forces security command, while the other two are in the custody of one of the military commands (*kodim*) in Jakarta.

These latest moves show that the Indonesian regime's efforts to distort the facts about last week's massacre have now spread to Jakarta and the Indonesian human rights network.

Poncke Princen and representatives from the Legal Aid Institute in Bandung, Infight and other human rights organisation, were to have flown to Dili today but were prevented from doing so; warrants for the three arrested men were issued at 10 am today.

Our sources in Jakarta also report that the Infight office has been surrounded by security forces.

TAPOL said today that the investigation under a Supreme Court judge, by a team appointed by President Suharto, is aimed to deceive world opinion and cover up a heinous crime that is being condemned worldwide. It is essential to press for an internationally-supervised independent and impartial inquiry, to call for the immediate release of the three human rights activists and to press the British government to call for a totally independent team of investigators to be sent without delay to East Timor.

Unlike a number of western governments, the British Government has not yet condemned the massacre.